

Remarks

The specification of the above-captioned application was amended to cross-reference prior applications relied upon for priority. In addition, claims were amended so that they are directed to the apparatus *per se*, rather than to the apparatus in which bacteria and eukaryotic cells are growing. These amendments do not add new matter to the application, and their entry is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks above, it is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a phone call may help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (202) 419-7013.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By: _____

Michael A. Sanzo
Michael A. Sanzo
Reg. No. 36,912
Attorney for Applicants

Date: September 29, 2003
1801 K St., NW, Suite 401L
Washington, DC 20006
(202)419-7013